

Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

In Memoriam

WALTER COFFIN ODIORNE

Acting Ensign U. S. Navy

DIED AT PHILADELPHIA PA. MARCH 12 1916

Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

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Philadelphia, July 11, 1916.

WALTER COFFIN ODIORNE.

Master's Mate U. S. Navy August 26, 1861; Acting Ensign U. S. Navy April 24, 1863; resigned and honorably discharged March 16, 1866.

Elected April 2, 1884. Class 1. Insignia 3218.

Transferred from Commandery of District of Columbia December 26, 1889.

Born December 30, 1842, at Boston, Mass.

Died March 12, 1916, at Philadelphia, Pa.

Companion Walter Coffin Odiorne was the son of George and Clementina (Coffin) Odiorne. His father was a well-known citizen of Boston, a member of the Massachusetts Senate, and engaged in many of the public improvements of Boston.

He was educated in the public schools of Boston, and at sixteen years of age accepted a position with a Boston dry-goods house.

His grandfather, on his mother's side, was a sea captain; he inherited a love of the sea and entered the merchant service at sixteen years of age, and made a trip around Cape Horn and back to Liverpool in the clipper ship "Mameluke." On returning to New York, he learned that Fort Sumter had been fired on, and immediately offered his services to the Government and was accepted, and appointed to the Navy, U. S. S. Cambridge, and served with the North Atlantic Squadron. Was in Hampton Roads at the time the Rebel Iron-clad "Merrimac" made its raid, and was in the first day's fight with that vessel. Afterwards was stationed off Wilmington, N. C., and in endeavoring to assist a boat's crew of the vessel that had been upset while trying to burn a blockade runner that had grounded, was taken prisoner by a detachment of Rebel Cavalry that suddenly arrived on the scene, and was sent to Libby Prison, where he was confined four weeks and then exchanged.

After exchange, was ordered to U. S. S. Wissahickon, and stationed on the South Atlantic Coast, doing blockade duty, and was off Charleston until its surrender.

E. D. EDMUNDS,
Acting Master U. S. Navy.

Committee.

By command of

Paymaster THOMAS SKELTON HARRISON, U. S. N.
Commander

JOHN P. NICHOLSON
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. V.
Recorder

Official

Recorder